



Pumpkin Teardown

Pumpkin teardown, or Jack-o-lantern assembly manual, you decide!

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INTRODUCTION

Once upon a midnight dreary, while we pondered, weak and weary, over many quaint and curious volumes of service manual lore—while we pondered, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping, as of some one gently rapping, rapping at our teardown door.

“’Tis some pumpkin,” we did mutter, “rapping at our teardown door—

Only this and nothing more.”



TOOLS:

- [Jimmy](#) (1)
 - [iOpener](#) (1)
 - [Spudger](#) (1)
 - [Sewing Pins](#) (1)
 - [Marker](#) (1)
 - [Cordless Drill](#) (1)
 - [Precision Utility Knife](#) (1)
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Step 1 — Pumpkin Teardown



- Pumpkin: this fall's must-have device. Despite a yearly release cycle, our Late 2016 Pumpkin doesn't sport any major upgrades from last year's model.
- ⓘ It's scratchgate all over again! Our brand-new Pumpkin came with a few dents and dings. This could haunt Pumpkin's durability over time.
- Here're some specs on Pumpkin:
 - Pumpkin comes in several stunning finishes: Really Orange, Space Orange, and Annoying Orange. Jet Orange is currently sold out.
 - This model is marketed primarily as decorative, lacking the necessary features (e.g. heat sensitive material) for models used in pie-making.
 - No operating system is required

Step 2



- Time to disconnect the battery.

⚠ No matter what device you're cracking open, it's important to disconnect the battery first. We're not making pumpkin pie, so we don't want to cook this device in the course of a teardown.

- We've said it before, we'll say it again: integrated, difficult-to-replace batteries are spooky. We're pleased this Pumpkin-maker made the battery easy to access.
- This long-lived battery will have enough [pumpkin juice](#) to make it all night—or at least until the [Great Pumpkin comes](#).

Step 3



- Pumpkin's spherical unibody design is something of a novelty—the last time we saw anything like this was Google's [Nexus Q](#).
- Getting in will prove challenging, as the seams on the outside appear to be purely decorative. And there's not a screw in sight. This thing is locked up tighter than [Dracula's castle](#).
- Before we resort to invasive tactics, we heat up our iOpener to soften up any hidden adhesive that might be lurking under the handle. But Pumpkin keeps mum.

Step 4



- We were hoping to avoid [smashing pumpkins](#), but it looks like we're going to have to bust our way in. A top-down approach seems most intuitive.
- We start by carefully plotting out a path of entry. We don't want to damage any internal components that may be hiding under the handle.

Step 5



- Peter, Peter, pumpkin-eater couldn't breach this orange shell. Instead we tried our [Jimmy](#)—and it worked out very well.
- Usually, we use the Jimmy for prying and, well, jimmy-ing things open. But we're going full [Michael Myers](#) and using the Jimmy to stab Pumpkin open.
- Even with a convenient handle, the lid is difficult to remove. A mystery adhesive underneath is too strong for our suction cup. And that just sucks.
- So we break out our spudger. Jamming it under the lid seems to do the trick(-or-treat).

Step 6



- Grasp Pumpkin [firmly by the handle](#).
- After a decent tug, the lid comes free from the device, trailing an adhesive residue after it. We haven't seen this much adhesive gunk since we took apart [the Surface Pro](#).
 - Ripping the head lid off proves to be a bit of a [nightmare](#).
- We raise this Pumpkin-top like the dead, anxious for a little ~~grave-robbing pie-making~~ investigation of its fleshy, vascular strands.

Step 7



- Now comes the delicate process of removing the internal components. We reach our tweezers into the unexplored depths of Pumpkin and pull out an ...
- iPhone headphone jack assembly! So that's where Apple put them all.
- With that out of the way, we start removing the other components ... one by one. This is gonna [take awhile](#).
- ❗ The seeds appear to be nearly identical. We wonder if they are interchangeable. If so, that would certainly improve Pumpkin's repairability score.

Step 8



- Here's what we like about Pumpkin—there's no walled garden (unless you literally grow Pumpkin in a walled garden). When it comes to hardware—this sucker is fully moddable!
- ✦ Modding the case will require us to use destructive techniques, so we want to be careful. One false move with our tools—and we could turn Pumpkin into a ghost.
- We start by affixing a stencil to Pumpkin's outer case, and to "stay in the lines," so to speak, we do a little tracing too.
- With this many pins in it, Pumpkin is shaping up to be a real [Hellraiser](#).

Step 9



- We didn't find our favorite screw-type *in* Pumpkin, so we're going to put it *on* Pumpkin.
- A tech knife is all it takes to excise the cross-head.
- Scoring Pumpkin requires a more specialized tool. The scorer allows us to scrape away the hard, outer-layer of orange, revealing a softer, lighter material underneath.
- ① A more accessible alternative for the DIY Pumpkin modder might be a [small melon baller](#), or a Dremel if you have one.

Step 10



- Doing some custom lettering on Pumpkin requires us to break out the big guns.
 - ① It's possible this thick case material serves as some sort of heat shield for the heating accessory often used in tandem with Pumpkin.
- Of course, this kind of mod will likely compromise the device's waterproofing.
 - But the final result is just too good to pass on. We'll just avoid using Pumpkin anywhere near a toilet.

Step 11



- Some models of Pumpkin come with a heating element preinstalled—but our base model didn't include one. Guess we'll just have to upgrade.
 - Good thing we've still got this [handy fuel source](#)! Once it spontaneously combusts, that 13.48 Wh battery will be just the thing to light Pumpkin up like the Fourth of July.
- ⚠ Please, do not handle, use, touch, approach, or even look at the Note7 (Unless you're actively putting it in a triple-layer box and shipping it back to Samsung).

Step 12



- Don't mind that smell, it's operating as designed. The [flavor](#) has proven to be [very popular](#) with modern consumers.
- ☑ Added bonus: Our case modifications should prevent Pumpkin from overheating, but safety first! Keep an eye on your Pumpkin, once lit.
- Uh-oh. This Pumpkin completely lost its head! Thanks to our friends at [Creative Electron](#) for popping Pumpkin into their spooktacular X-ray machine and sharing the results with us.

Step 13



- Like an overripe zombie, our Pumpkin has completely spilled its guts. The witching hour is now over.
- ☑ For more Pumpkin tips and best practices, [head to our Answers forum!](#)
- Happy Halloween to all you repair ghouls out there!

